

In the Specification:

After the Abstract, please insert substitute pages 1-4 filed on even date herewith which contain the corrected Sequence Listing.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully submit that this Preliminary Amendment is filed in response to the Notice to Comply with Requirements for Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide Sequence and/or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures forwarded with the Notice to File Missing Parts of Application dated September 20, 1999. In response to the Notice, Applicants have submitted to Box Sequence on even date herewith a computer-readable form (diskette) of the corrected Sequence Listing, and substitute specification pages 1-4, following the Abstract, which contain the corrected Sequence Listing for the above-referenced application. Applicants have also amended the specification to insert the substitute pages, numbered 1-4, immediately after the Abstract.

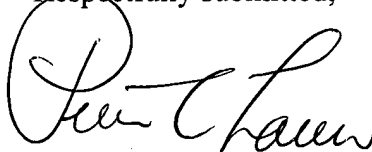
In particular, SEQ ID NO:18 has been corrected to recite the consensus motif: Cys-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa, wherein the Xaa's at positions 2 and 3 represent aliphatic amino acids and the Xaa at position 4 is any uncharged amino acid. Support for the amendment to SEQ ID NO:18 can be found at least at page 43, lines 40-41 of the instant specification.

Applicants submit that the computer-readable form (diskette) of the corrected Sequence Listing is identical in substance to substitute specification pages 1-4, following the Abstract, which contain the corrected Sequence Listing, as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.825(a) and (b). No new matter has been added.

In addition, Applicants have submitted to Box Sequence on even date herewith a separate Response to the Notice to Comply with Requirements for Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide Sequence and/or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures.

If a telephone conversation with Applicants' Attorney would expedite the prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is urged to call Applicants' Attorney at (617) 227-7400.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Peter C. Lauro", written over a horizontal line.

Peter C. Lauro, Esq.
Registration No. 32,360
Attorney for Applicants

LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP
28 State Street
Boston, MA 02109
Tel. (617) 227-7400

Dated: December 17, 1999